

COUNCIL / BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales

COUNCIL / BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Gonzalez

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

CITY MANAGER'S BUDGET MESSAGE

City Manager Todd presented the Budget Message.

In addition, Director Nunes presented a PowerPoint presentation about the City Manager's Message.

BREAK

Mayor Smith declared a break at 6:40 pm.

RECONVENE FROM BREAK

Mayor Smith reconvened the meeting at 6:47 pm.

INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Pastor Wallace.

FLAG SALUTE

The flag salute was led by Vice Mayor Hinesly.

NEW EMPLOYEES AND PROMOTIONS

5.1. Robert Egan, Public Works

Business Manager Avila presented Robert Egan recently promoted to public improvements inspector.

6.1. John Sanchez, Flag Day Event, June 14, 2011

John Sanchez was present to invite the City Council to an event commemorating the 911 tragedy which occurred ten years ago. He noted that the key note speaker was on the 55th floor of one of the towers during the 911 tragedy. Sanchez said two flags will be dedicated at the meeting one has 48 stars and the other was flown over Afghanistan. He asked the Mayor to make a presentation on behalf of the City. Sanchez highlighted some of the items planned for the event.

13.1. Additional Support for Dinuba Senior Citizens Inc Programming and Meals

Director Nunes presented some background information for the senior center. An agreement was entered into on June 23, 2003, between Dinuba Senior Citizens, Inc. (DSCI) and the City of Dinuba to provide the seniors with opportunities for a better quality of life through nutrition, health, social, recreational, and educational programs and activities. The DSCI has met this agreement by providing seniors with the opportunity for physical fitness; library hours; enrichment activities such as quilting, ceramics, painting and crafts; health screenings; gleaning and an affordable lunch program (until the funding was cut for the lunch program by the County of Tulare). Currently, the City provides an annual stipend to the DSCI in the amount of \$22,000. This amount had been adequate to maintain the Center in the past providing the position of Director was left unfunded and the duties of that position was provided by volunteers. However, the increase in costs over the last two years especially in the cost of insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance costs as well as the loss of AARP funding have caused the stipend amount to no longer be enough to maintain the basic programs designated in the agreement between the Senior Center and the City.

In July 2008, the County of Tulare discontinued the Senior Meal Program that was being administered through the Kings/Tulare AAA organization. It was at this time that the program, which offered meals for approximately \$1.85 per meal to seniors five days per week, was discontinued as a result of a decrease in Federal and State funding for the senior meal program. Nunes recommended increasing the stipend by \$15,000 to maintain level of programming and include \$17,500 to increase stipend to \$32,000.

Kelly Martin was present to share samples of the food containers that will be used for hot and cold meals. She also shared some meal patterns as provided by the State of California to provide proper meals for the seniors.

Discussion followed in regard to the meals the school can provide and Martin said she has done research in surrounding areas and added that the meals will evolve over time. Martin noted that the seniors will be getting fresh cooked meals.

City Manager Todd said this is a trial period and if we can afford two days out of the week we will increase it to more days a week. The Flexibility in the menu is good and the school district will provide nutritional meals. One of the best ways to check out how good the meals are is to visit the senior center once in a while.

Council discussion followed about the meals that used to be provided and the proposed meals.

Nunes added that the \$15,000 includes the cost to run the program not necessarily staffing a "person." It's really a cost of the program not a cost of a person.

Vice Mayor Hinesly asked if there is a need to have a program manager.

Nunes said there will be someone there to take money.

Hinesly asked if this was the request made a couple months ago by Kristina Chamberlin.

Nunes said "no this is not a proposal to fund a person it is to fund the program."

It was moved by Vice Mayor Hinesly, second by Council Member Morales, to approve staff's recommendation to increase the stipend and to provide an additional \$17,500 for the meals.

AYES: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzalez

Martin thanked the City Council on behalf of the seniors.

6.2. Public Comments in Regard to Dinuba Vocational Center, 199 No L Street

Mayor Smith opened up the floor to discussion on the Dinuba Vocational Center.

City Manager Todd said that is correct the item will be on the agenda for at least the next three Council meetings. He said up to a couple weeks ago it was clear what was going to happen to the building but the changes are now evident. The building is vital to the downtown. He said he's already heard comments in the community but this is a good way to bring it forward and hear what the community is saying.

Mayor Smith invited the public to speak on the matter of the Dinuba Vocational Center.

Sandy Sills, Dinuba Chamber of Commerce, said City Manager Todd called her and said the focus is to place someone in the building to increase the flow toward the downtown. The past tenants never accomplished this goal. Ruiz Foods attempted to acquire the building and the goal was to get it fully utilized. We must weigh if an education facility is going to be able to utilize the facility. It is the Chamber's perspective to support the City. The board will contact the City Manager if they hear of someone out there. Sills said it's the intent of the Chamber to make something happen and not let the building sit for a long time. The Chamber will support the City and support Ruiz as they have supported our community. We know their decision to pull back was difficult to make. The Chamber is trying to come up with positive ideas or potential clients for the building and is here to support and help any way it can.

Robert Cervantes said the building should never be sold now we have a problem. There were 15 classes in the building the high school only has 4 classes. Reedley College was paying \$55,000 to \$60,000 per year to lease the building which we no longer have. We can get it back again. We are facing hard times but it will bounce back again. We have a \$2 million bond which costs us thousands per year. The EDA has \$3.2 million tied up in the building. The best thing is to bring everyone back there.

6.3. Unscheduled

Sandy Sills, Chamber of Commerce, Proteus is having a ribbon-cutting event tomorrow afternoon from 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 7.1. City Council/Redevelopment Agency Joint Meeting, March 22; April 1, 2011
- 7.2. Set Hearing Date – Approving Dinuba Redevelopment Agency Affordable Housing & Real Property Disposition Agreement, RDA / Urbano Nieblas, May 10, 2011
- 7.3. Claim for Consideration – Naiel Nassar
- 7.4. Set Hearing Date - Muirfield III Final Map and Subdivision Agreement, May 10, 2011

It was motioned by Vice Mayor / Vice Chair Hinesly, second by Council / Board Member Harness to approve the consent calendar as presented.

AYES: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzalez

WARRANT REGISTER

- 8.1. Approval – City Council Warrant Register, April 15, 22, 2011
- 8.2. Approval – Redevelopment Agency Warrant Register, April 15, 22, 2011

It was moved by Council / Board Member Morales, second by Vice Mayor / Vice Chair Hinesly, to approve the warrant register as presented.

AYES: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzalez

MAYOR'S / CHAIR MINUTE

- 9.1. Information Sharing

Mayor Smith said he attended the following events / meetings.

“Good Morning Dinuba”
Rd 80 Ground Breaking
Annual Spring Fling Event
First Service of Living Word Fellowship at the new church location on Easter Sunday

- 10.1. San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Special City Selection Committee

City Manager Todd requested that the City Council consider replacing former Council Member McKittrick with a current Council Member for the SJVAPCD Special City Selection Committee—perhaps with Council Member Morales, and an alternate. He said the meetings are only attended when the committee needs to appoint a board member. They normally meet four times a year and meetings last about an hour. It’s important because a quorum has to be present to conduct business.

Vice Mayor Hinesly nominated Council Member Morales as the primary appointee, the nomination was seconded by Council Member Harness.

Council Member Harness nominated Mayor Smith as the alternate appointee and Vice Mayor Hinesly seconded the motion.

AYES: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzalez

- 10.2. Tulare County Economic Development Appointment

Vice Mayor Hinesly nominated Council Member Harness to be appointed our representative on the Tulare County Economic Development Committee; the motion was seconded by Council Member Morales.

AYES: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzalez

10.3. Planning Commission Appointment

City Manager Todd said Commission Saldivar recently resigned. Our City Charter requires appointment be made from within Council districts, which in this instance is Morales, District 1.

Council Member Morales said he has a potential candidate.

Mayor Smith asked when the Council redistricting will be done. City Manager Todd read out of the City's Charter the requirements and time limits. He quoted that "60 days from official census...then we have 60 days to provide the information." He said he thought he had the information from the census but we don't have it yet. It may not be available until June. The entire process will likely be concluded by the end of the year. We've contacted county staff who did the work for us last time. He explained the process of the last redistricting which occurred ten years ago.

Council discussion followed.

10.4. Event Notice – Form

Chief Olvera reported on the new event form and brought it forward for discussion. He said the old form is somewhat rigid. It hinders the facilities to implement or sign contracts with ease in charging for events. Staff put together a second form which is called "City of Dinuba Police Department Event Notification Form" after the last council meeting. There is some flexibility in the guidelines. The form can be sent to the Administrative Assistant by fax, e-mail, postal service or hand delivery.

The folks at The Island, the Medinas, feel it should not be necessary if they follow their CUP. The other facilities made no comments toward the form. There were no comments offered in regard to revising the form other than Mr. Medina feeling it is unnecessary.

Vice Mayor Hinesly felt the form was appropriate and said if it were her she feels it would be her evidence that she complied with the CUP.

Council Member Morales said he likes it but he wanted to hear from Medina.

Sal Medina, 281 North Whitney, said he is concerned that he's been "under an umbrella" of filling out the forms but his "Conditions" say he has to comply by the form. He added that the form does not help his business run efficiently.

Council Member Harness said the forms are quite different.

Vice Chair Hinesly asked what proof they have that requirements are met for events without a form.

Medina said his proof is the security companies provide the proof.

Vice Chair Hinesly commented she feels he may be exposing himself to some liability.

Medina said the security company name and hours is supplied to the police department.

Mayor Smith agreed.

Vice Mayor Hinesly said it's for Medina's protection.

Council Member Harness said he's spoken with Medina on many occasions; you invest your money and you don't want restrictions but there are restrictions and this is a good way to comply.

This would abolish the old form along with the matrix and adopt the new form.

It was motioned by Council Member Morales, second by Vice Mayor Hinesly, to approve the new form as presented.

AYES: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzalez

Vice Mayor Hinesly asked when the new form goes into effect and how would the other rental facilities be notified?

City Manager Todd said its effective today and the other events will be notified this week.

Chief Olvera said the City Attorney will work something up to indemnify the City.

10.5. Information sharing

Vice Mayor Hinesly said she attended the Good Morning Dinuba meeting and it was a positive meeting. She said it was interesting to her that it continues to grow and picking up more businesses from Reedley, Sanger, and Kingsburg.

FINANCE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

13.2. Information Sharing

Director Nunes shared that baseball opening ceremonies will be held Saturday at ten. The Parks crew is preparing the fields. The Spring Fling was well attended with about 2,000 participants. Cinco de Mayo will be held May 5-8; the aquatics program begins in May. The Farmers Market kick-off is in May. The Bob Barker building racks have been removed. Staff plans to apply for Prop 84 grant funding. There will be a public meeting on May 10 in regard to the Bob Barker building on May 17 and then at City Hall on May 25 to gather public input on the facility as a community center and to find out what the public wants to see in the facility.

Mayor Smith said the National Night Out Program used to be run by former employee Terry Mejorado a few years ago. He asked if that is something that we can do again.

Director Nunes said the Police Department normally takes the lead on that program but the community center can help.

14.1. Information Sharing

Director Uota shared information about the reclamation facility project.

Director Uota said he recently attended the ICSC conference in Visalia.

Mayor Smith asked about the rebuilding status of Perko's Restaurant.

Building Official Hartley said the plan is in plan check.

15.1. Information Sharing

Chief Thompson said the Garford will once again be used to transport the City Council Members in the Cinco de Mayo parade.

16.1. Information Sharing

Chief Olvera reported that last week the Radar and Lidar training and certification was completed. There were 9 Dinuba officers trained and 21 officers are now trained.

Chief Olvera reported that on he will be conducting interviews for reserve officers on Wednesday and Thursday. He added there are 22 applicants to interview.

17.1. Authorization to create New Fees for Conditional Use Permit Modifications

Business Manager Avila presented information in regard to the creation of a conditional use permit modification fee. He shared that our zoning ordinance allows the City Council to establish or revise periodically the filing fees requested upon the filing of applications for the purpose of defraying, in part, the expense of staff review and analysis, postage, posting, advertising or other costs incidental to proceedings. The current fee for application of a CUP is \$2,071.

The fee defrays the cost to review the application and site plan, research the Zoning Ordinance and Municipal Code for compliance, research into previous approvals and related history, composing reports for presentation before the Planning Commission, preparing public notifications, CEQA, preparing Notice of Exemption, filing Notice with County Clerk, and State Clearinghouse.

Existing CUP's allow for modifications to be made annually upon request of the applicant. As there is no fee for CUP modifications, the fees charged would again be \$2,071.

Because CUP modifications generally would involve amending certain conditions of approval and doing so would not necessarily require the full review that typically occurs with a new CUP application, it is City staff's opinion that the existing CUP fee is excessive for simple modifications.

Avila reported that a public hearing is required for approval by resolution of all City fees. A hearing will be set for a future date with City Council's approval of creating a new fee for CUP modification applications.

It was motioned by Council Member Morales, second by Vice Mayor Hinesly to authorize staff to create the fee for CUP modification and to set a hearing date for consideration of the new fee.

AYES: Harness, Hinesly, Smith, Morales
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Gonzalez

17.2. Information Sharing

Director Beltran reported that attendance to the annual Spring Cleanup was about 800 loads less than last year.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting at 8:54 pm.

Mike Smith, Mayor / Chair

ATTEST:

Linda Barkley, Deputy City Clerk / Secretary